

# VIRGINIA BOARD OF DENTISTRY

## FAST-TRACK PROPOSAL ON INHALATION ANALGESIA

### (NITROUS OXIDE)

#### **18 VAC60-20-108. Administration of anxiolysis or inhalation analgesia.**

A. Education and training requirements. A dentist who utilizes anxiolysis or inhalation analgesia shall have training in and knowledge of:

1. Medications used, the appropriate dosages and the potential complications of administration.
2. Physiological effects of nitrous oxide and potential complications of administration.

B. Equipment requirements. A dentist who utilizes anxiolysis or inhalation analgesia shall maintain the following equipment in his office and be trained in its use:

1. Blood pressure monitoring equipment.
2. Positive pressure oxygen.
3. Mechanical (hand) respiratory bag.

C. Monitoring requirements.

1. The treatment team for anxiolysis ~~or inhalation analgesia~~ shall consist of the dentist and a second person in the operatory with the patient to assist, monitor and observe the patient. One member of the team shall be in the operatory monitoring the patient at all times once the administration has begun.
2. A dentist who utilizes anxiolysis or inhalation analgesia shall ensure that there is continuous visual monitoring of the patient to determine the level of consciousness.

3. If inhalation analgesia is used, monitoring shall include making the proper adjustments of nitrous oxide machines at the request of or by the dentist during administration of the sedation and observing the patient's vital signs.

D. Discharge requirement. The dentist shall ensure that the patient is not discharged to his own care until he exhibits normal responses.